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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,380	10/05/2004	Eckhard Floeter	F7643(V)	6212
201 7590 07/21/2008 UNILEVER PATENT GROUP 800 SYLVAN AVENUE AG West S. Wing ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, NJ 07632-3100				
EXAMINER				
PADEN, CAROLYN A				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/21/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/510,380

Applicant(s)

FLOETER, ECKHARD

Examiner

Carolyn A. Paden

Art Unit

1794

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 9-11, 13, 15, 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 12 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 11, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deffense (JAOCS article) for reasons of record.

Applicant argues that Defense does not show the extent of monoacid HHH or the extent of H2M that is in the claims. Applicant also argues that it would not have been obvious to modify the composition of Deffense to achieve the fat composition of the claims. This has been considered but is not persuasive. The difference between the palm mid fraction of Defense and the claims accounts for less than 2% of the fat composition. One of ordinary skill in the art would expect fractionated palm oil to show variation in chemical composition according to the way the oil was fractionated and according to the starting palm oil. Chemically speaking, the difference between the prior art and the claims is a difference in an ethyl group in the triglyceride molecule. The triglycerides in edible

fats are generally thought of as a whole and are grouped together as one ingredient in a composition. It is not seen that the difference in the fatty acid chain length of the minor components of the fat composition constitutes unobviousness.

Claims 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 10 is a process that depends from a product. An amendment to the claims changing the claim to depend from claim 9 would overcome the rejection.

Claims 9, 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wieske (4,702,928) in view of Defense.

Wieske discloses fat blends for margarine. In example VI various combinations of hydrogenated and non-hydrogenated palm oil fractions are combined to form a fat blend that is used in formulation shown on column 2, lines 25-40. The formulations shows an aqueous phase and a fat phase that is emulsified. Although cooling is not mentioned, it is known in the art to cool spreads to form a solid product. The claims appear to differ from Wieske in the

recitation of the composition of the palm olein. Defense shows that palm olein is known in the art to have the composition of claim 1. Deffense discloses palm mid-fraction on Table VIII. Palm mid-fraction appears to show all of the elements of the claims except for the exact percentage of HHM plus HHH triglycerides and the exact percentage of HHH. Deffense further shows on figure 6 that the composition of the mid-fraction appears to vary with iodine value of the fraction and also with the source of the palm oil (Table 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the process of Wieske to incorporate the palm olein fraction of Defense to create the emulsion spread of the claims. The percent of water and fat phase of claim 10 is disclosed as an oil in water emulsion at column 2, lines 40-45.

Claims 2-8, 12 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carolyn A

Paden whose telephone number is (571) 272-1403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7 am to 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano, can be reached by dialing 571-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Carolyn Paden/

Primary Examiner 1794

